TECHNICAL NOTES

LAKE STATES FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE · · FOREST SERVICE

No. 429

Sawtimber Quality in Michigan

A knowledge of the quality distribution in standing sawtimber is essential to utilization planning. Table 1, based on a sawtimber log grading study made in Michigan during the fall of 1953*, shows the proportion of merchantable volume found in each log grade, by major species. The sample consisted of 558 trees.

The table on the back of this sheet (Table 2) gives the proportion of merchantable volume in No. 1 and No. 2 logs by species for the principal areas of the state.

Table 1.--Percent of merchantable volume in each log grade, by major species - Michigan

Species	Volume in sample	Log grades 1/				
		All grades	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	Tie & timber
	Bd.ft.	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Conifers						
White pine	5,503	100	10	22	68	0
Red pine	5,418	100	10	22	68	0
Hardwoods						
Sugar maple	19,389	100	15	36	43	6
Red maple	4,392	100	8	43	44	5
Yellow birch	3,797	100	21	34	45	0
Beech	7,651	100	10	40	44	6
American elm	5,959	100	4	34	61	1
Red oak	5,714	100	10	18	65	7

1/ For specifications see: Hardwood Log Grades for Standard Lumber, U. S. Forest Products Laboratory, Report D-1737, 60 pp., Madison, Wisconsin, 1949; Interim Specifications for Ties, Timbers, or Construction Material (unpublished), U. S. Forest Service, Washington, D. C., 1948; and Official Grading Rules for Northern Hardwood and Softwood Logs, Northern Hemlock and Hardwood Mfrs. Assn., 12 pp., Oshkosh, Wisconsin, 1943 (softwood log grades of Prime, No. 1 and No. 2 correspond to log grades No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3 above respectively).

* Personnel who participated in the field study included: A. J. Coates and Carl Jarvey, Michigan Department of Conservation; P. M. Haack, D. N. Quinney, R. N. Smith, and J. R. Warner, Lake States Forest Experiment Station.

(Over)

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MAINTAINED AT ST. PAUL 1, MINNESOTA, IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Table 2.--Comparison of the proportions of merchantable volume in No. 1 and No. 2 logs in the principal areas in Michigan by major species.

Species	Percent of merchantable volume in No. 1 and No. 2 logs			
	Entire state	Upper Peninsula	Lower Peninsula	
			Total	Northern half	Southern half
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Conifers					
White pine	32	36	9	9	-
Red pine	32	37	30	30	-
Hardwoods					
Sugar maple	51	51	49	44	55
Red maple	51	35	54	22	60
Yellow birch	55	55	-	-	-
Beech	50	50	45	48	36
American elm	38	47	36	22	49
Red oak	28	8	38	19	44